

Duxbury Clipper, Wednesday June 3, 1998

Great Trees of the Cushman Preserve



Cushman House, built in 1846, is surrounded by old trees, including a large red cedar.

On Sunday, June 7, at 2:30 pm, the Wildlands Trust will host a free ramble, guided by Jim Gorman of the Arnold Arboretum, at the Captain David Cushman Jr. Preserve on the Blue Fish River in Duxbury. The public is welcome. Gorman, a master of the lore, natural history, and care of trees, will focus on the old trees planted by the Cushmans, native trees that have grown, and recently planted trees.

From the grand old black walnuts to the common red cedars and the invasive buckthorn, Gorman will talk about everything involving trees, from buds to bark and the use of trees and shrubs in the landscape. Recently accepted into the Master of Public Horticulture Program at Longwood Gardens, Gorman has been the knowledgeable chief guide at Arnold Arboretum.

A remnant of old Duxbury, the 28-acre Cushman Preserve was donated to the Trust in 1985 by Lura Cushman, whose grandfather Capt. Cushman, built the Greek Revival house and barn in 1846. The land was part of the original John Alden farm and includes open fields, woodlands, and marshes. Ramblers will have an opportunity to see the newly painted house with its unusual details and the restored barn and gardens.

The Wildlands Trust is a land trust based in Duxbury which works with private land owners on the permanent preservation of cherished lands. Founded in 1973, today the Trust owns more than 70 properties comprising 2,500 acres.

The Cushman Preserve is located at the end of Anchorage Lane off St. George St., 200 yards on the right before the flagpole on Washington St. For more information call the Trust at 934-9018.